

REMARKS

Claims 16-24 and 27-40 are pending, and claims 16-24 and 37-38 are under consideration. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication by the Examiner that Claims 19-21, 37 and 38 are allowed. Applicants have cancelled claims 27-36, 39 and 40 which are withdrawn from consideration, and reserve the right to pursue these claims in a continuing application.

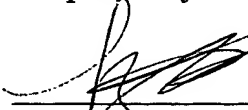
The Office Action provisionally rejected Claims 16-18 and 22-24 for double patenting under 35 U.S.C. § 101 over co-pending application No. 09/389,487, stating that the instantly claimed SEQ ID NO: 6 are identical to SEQ ID NO: 7 of the co-pending application. In response, applicants have cancelled claims 16-18, and 23-24, and amended claim 22. It is respectfully submitted that these claim amendments would overcome the provisional rejection and place the instant application in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #147/37315D2).

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 22 as follows:

22. (Twice Amended) A fragment of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:5 [or 6], which fragment is receptive to imidazoline compounds.